

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing circular call forwarding loops for a communications unit capable of operating in a first network and a second network within a loosely coupled network, and respectively having a first network number and a second network number, as well as a first network voice mail, the method comprising:

receiving a call directed to the first network number of the communications unit;

adding first loop indicia to caller identification data in the call;

storing first identification data corresponding to the call upon determining that the communications unit is not operating in the first network;

forwarding the call to the second network number of the communications unit;

receiving another call having second identification data for the communications unit subsequent to the forwarding of a call to the second network number of the communications unit;

checking for other loop indicia corresponding to another call;

comparing the other loop indicia corresponding to the another call with the loop indicia added to the call and the second identification data with the first identification data; and

forwarding the call to the first network voice mail of the communications unit when the comparing the other loop indicia corresponding to the another call with the loop indicia added to the call and the second identification data with the first identification data indicates a call forwarding loop.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the storing the first identification data comprises storing caller identification data for the call and the comparing comprises comparing other caller identification data for the another call with the caller identification data for the call and when a match is found indicating the call forwarding loop, forwarding the call to the first network voice mail of the communications unit.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the first and the other loop indicia comprises one of a prefix and a suffix for the caller identification data, the prefix and suffix having a predetermined number sequence.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the storing the first identification data comprises storing a tracked number of call appearances at the communications unit; the comparing comprises incrementing the tracked number of call appearances and determining when a predetermined limit for call appearances is satisfied; and when the predetermined limit is satisfied indicating the call forwarding loop, forwarding the call to the first network voice mail of the communications unit.
- 6-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A network switch, comprising:

a switching mechanism for switching voice and data traffic and for connecting an enterprise network to a cellular network through a publicly switched telephone network;

a controller in communication with the switching mechanism for setting up calls for the switching mechanism, the controller including a processor and a controller memory that is programmed to enable the processor:

to forward an enterprise call, which is directed to a communications unit enterprise number, to a corresponding communications unit cellular number in the cellular network;

add first loop indicia to first identification data in the enterprise call

to initially store first identification data corresponding to the enterprise call,

to check for other loop indicia corresponding to a subsequent call

to compare the other loop indicia and the second identification data corresponding to the subsequent call received by the switching mechanism from the cellular network with and first loop indicia and the first identification data, and

to forward the subsequent call to an enterprise network voice mail when the other loop indicia compared to the first loop indicia and the second identification data compared to the first identification data indicates indicate a call forwarding loop.

11. (Original) The network switch of claim 10 wherein the processor to store the first identification data further is enabled to store caller identification data for the enterprise call and to compare comprises comparing other caller identification data for the subsequent call with the caller identification data for the enterprise call and when a match

is found indicating the call forwarding loop, forwarding the call to the enterprise network voice mail of a communications unit.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The network switch of claim 10 wherein the loop indicia comprises one of a prefix and a suffix for the caller identification data, the prefix and suffix having a predetermined number sequence.

14. (Original) The network switch of claim 10 wherein to store the first identification data comprises to store a tracked number of call appearances at a communications unit; to compare comprises incrementing the tracked number of call appearances and determining when a predetermined limit for call appearances is satisfied; and when the predetermined limit is satisfied indicating the call forwarding loop, forwarding the call to the first network voice mail of the communications unit.

15-24. (Cancelled)